

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
4 August 2005 (04.08.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/071509 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G05D 16/20**
(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/000124
(22) International Filing Date: 14 January 2005 (14.01.2005)
(25) Filing Language: English
(26) Publication Language: English
(30) Priority Data:
0401396.7 22 January 2004 (22.01.2004) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **The BOC Group plc** [GB/GB]; Chertsey Road, Windlesham, Surrey GU20 6HJ (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **TOLLNER, Martin, Ernst** [GB/GB]; c/o BOC Edwards, York Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9TT (GB).

(74) Agent: **BOOTH, Andrew, Steven**; The BOC Group plc, Chertsey Road, Windlesham, Surrey GU20 6HJ (GB).

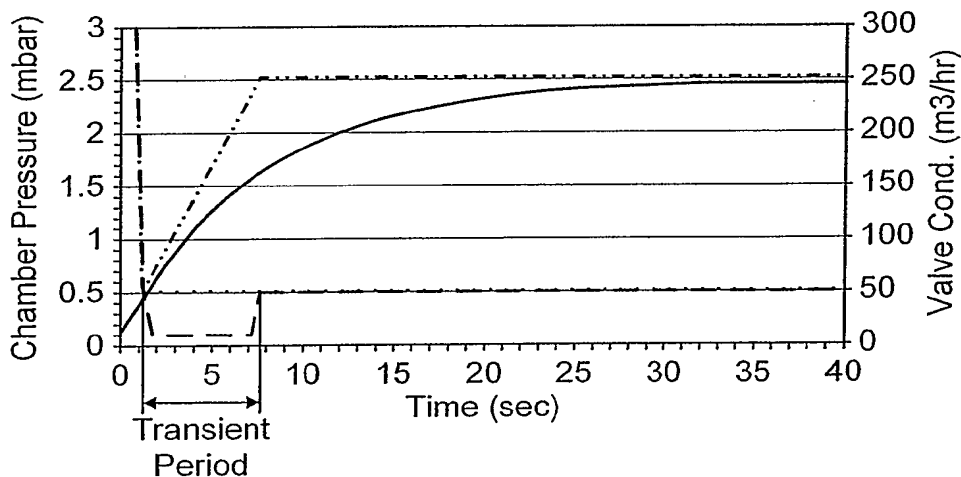
(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRESSURE CONTROL METHOD



— Prior Art Response - - - Fast Response
- - - Valve Conductance (Fast) . . . Valve Conductance (Prior Art)

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of setting the pressure in a chamber of a vacuum system to a required pressure, the system comprising a pressure control system including a pump for evacuating gas from the chamber and a flow controller for allowing the flow of gas into the chamber, the method comprising setting an initial flow into and/or out of the chamber for achieving a pressure above the required pressure so as to increase the rate of pressure increase, the initial flow occurring over a transient period which does not allow the pressure to exceed the required pressure, and setting a preset flow into and/or out of the chamber after the transient period has elapsed for achieving and maintaining the required pressure. Iperiod has elapsed for achieving and maintaining the required pressure.

WO 2005/071509 A1



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.